

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 18, 2004

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### Inhibition of Luciferase Activity

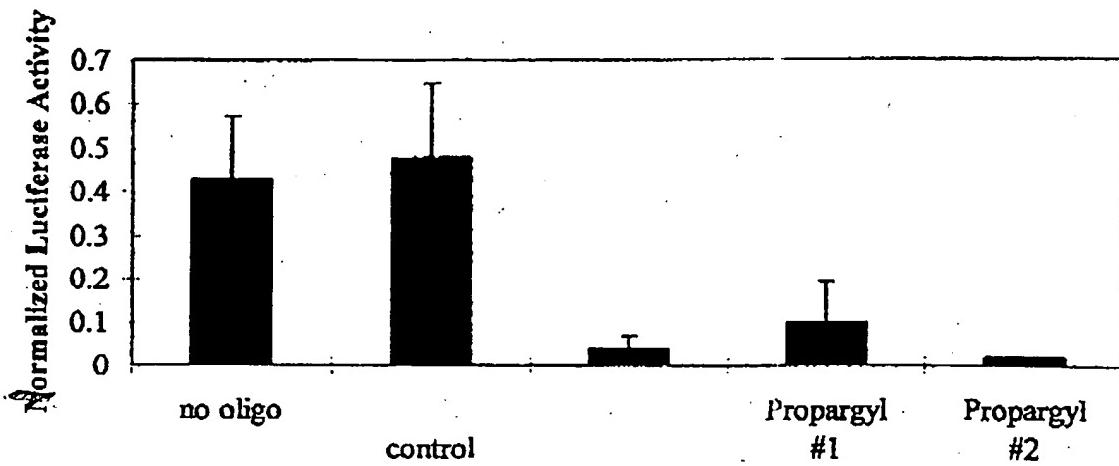


Figure 1. Propargyl-containing antisense oligomers effectively inhibit target luciferase expression. Antisense oligomers with the indicated chemistries were transfected into HeLa cells. A secondary transfection was performed with either the target firefly luciferase expression vector or a control firefly luciferase expression vector which does not contain the target sequence. The data is expressed as the ratio of targeted firefly luciferase signal to non-targeted firefly luciferase signal.

FIGURE 1